

6 July 1960

ALGERIA-FRANCE

- I. The rebels' current refusal to initiate substantive cease-fire negotiations with the French stemmed from dissatisfaction concerning restrictions imposed upon their advance delegation in Melun last week.
 - A. They objected strongly to delegates' being kept isolated from press and from imprisoned rebel ministers such as Mohamed Ben Bella.
 - B. Also critical of French unwillingness to permit Ferhat Abbas direct access to De Gaulle on arrival.
- II. But rebel communique suspending further talks was conciliatory in tone; merely characterized further contacts at this time as "not opportune," leaving the door open for future overtures.
 - A. Nevertheless rebels sensitive to any suggestion of a capitulation, and are unlikely to resume negotiations unless their delegates are permitted greater freedom of movement.
 - B. Meanwhile, rebels ^{indicate likelihood of} ~~will attempt to~~ step up terrorism and small-group military activity within Algeria.
- III. French position essentially unchanged.
 - A. They are willing to arrange an "honorable" cease-fire with rebels.
 - B. They will not recognize rebels ^{as} sole spokesmen for Algerian people or as representative of a legitimate government, but only as leaders of the rebellion.
 - C. De Gaulle willing to meet Abbas only after agreement on a cease-fire.

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- D. De Gaulle on 6 July spoke in usual vein of advancing step by step on the road of an Algeria linked to France with its future decided by the Algerians themselves and warned "anything that retards the big decision is not good action."
- IV. Among rightist settlers in Algeria, suspension of cease-fire talks has been received without elation.
 - A. Extremists expect talks to be resumed and still fear a "sellout" to rebels.
 - B. But Melun negotiations seem to have been conducted in a manner sufficiently tough to allay threat of rightist coup at present time.
 - C. Rightist plotting continues; extremists believe they will one day have to take to the streets again to keep Algeria French, but hope that any new uprising can be attempted in conjunction with similar move by rightists in France.